

35.C12644

FEB - 2 1999

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
MASATO YAMANOBE, ET AL.) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 09/041,639) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: March 13, 1998)
For: IMAGE-FORMING APPARATUS) February 2, 1999

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 2100

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English document is provided by the enclosed English language version of the European Official Letter (and Annex thereto). As will be appreciated, the document listed on the European Official Letter that is not included herewith was previously cited and enclosed in the Information Disclosure Statement of October 6, 1998.

Applicants certify under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in the subject information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a

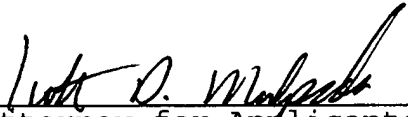
foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Specifically, these documents were cited in a European Official Letter dated November 19, 1998, in a corresponding European patent application. A copy of the Official Letter that issued on that related application is enclosed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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